

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS

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October 3, 2003

ASSESSMENT OF FIELD READINESS FOR THE CALIFORNIA OUTCOMES MEASUREMENT SYSTEM (CalOMS)

The California Outcome Measurement System (CalOMS) will begin data collection on October 1, 2004. In preparation, the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (Department) is initiating a field readiness assessment with our partners, the 58 California counties and the treatment providers with whom the Department contracts directly (direct providers). The focus of this initiative is to assess county and direct provider readiness for CalOMS treatment data collection/transmission and to identify how our partners will prepare for CalOMS implementation.

Currently, counties and direct providers use the California Alcohol and Drug Data System (CADDs) to report publicly-funded alcohol and other drug (AOD) client treatment services to the Department. CalOMS will expand the client data collected from the counties and direct providers to meet federal Performance Partnership Grant (PPG) requirements and to provide answers to questions regarding the efficacy of treatment. Over the past several months, the Department has worked to define requirements for CalOMS. The next step in the CalOMS project is the assessment of county and direct provider readiness for the reporting process changes described in the CalOMS requirements.

Counties and direct providers will have a major role in the success of CalOMS. However, county ability to collect and transmit additional client level treatment data varies across the State. An important step in implementing CalOMS is determining the current state of readiness of each county and direct provider for expanded data collection and transmission.



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Working with our partners, the Department will facilitate the assessment of their readiness for CalOMS and identify the issues and barriers that stand in the way of readiness. After this, the Department will work with the counties and direct providers to assist them with the development of the strategies, plans and timelines they will use to achieve readiness. At this time, the readiness assessment will only focus on treatment data. Readiness for prevention data collection and reporting will occur at a later time.

The Department plans to begin the readiness assessment process by distributing a survey with written instructions to you this month, October 2003. We will then conduct regional meetings to review the survey and our overall approach and plan for this project. We will schedule counties for specific meetings based on geographic location and county size. We have scheduled direct providers for specific meetings based on the geographic location of their headquarters offices in California.

When you receive your survey and instructions, please review it and bring any questions you have to the regional meeting. The date and location of the regional meeting we have scheduled you to attend is on the enclosed meeting notice. If this meeting date and location does not fit your schedule or for questions about the Field Readiness Assessment project, please contact Arielle Ocel of the Department's Field Readiness team at (916) 323-6651 or email aocel@adp.state.ca.us. Also, look for Field Readiness postings on ADP's website <http://www.adp.ca.gov>.

On behalf of the Field Readiness team, we look forward to working with you and invite and encourage your feedback

Sincerely,

JESSE A. MCGUINN, MSW
Deputy Director
Programs Operations Division

Enclosure

cc: All Executive Staff
Field Readiness Team